



Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant

Proposed plan for the East Acid Area site soil and sediment cleanup

July 2005

About this document

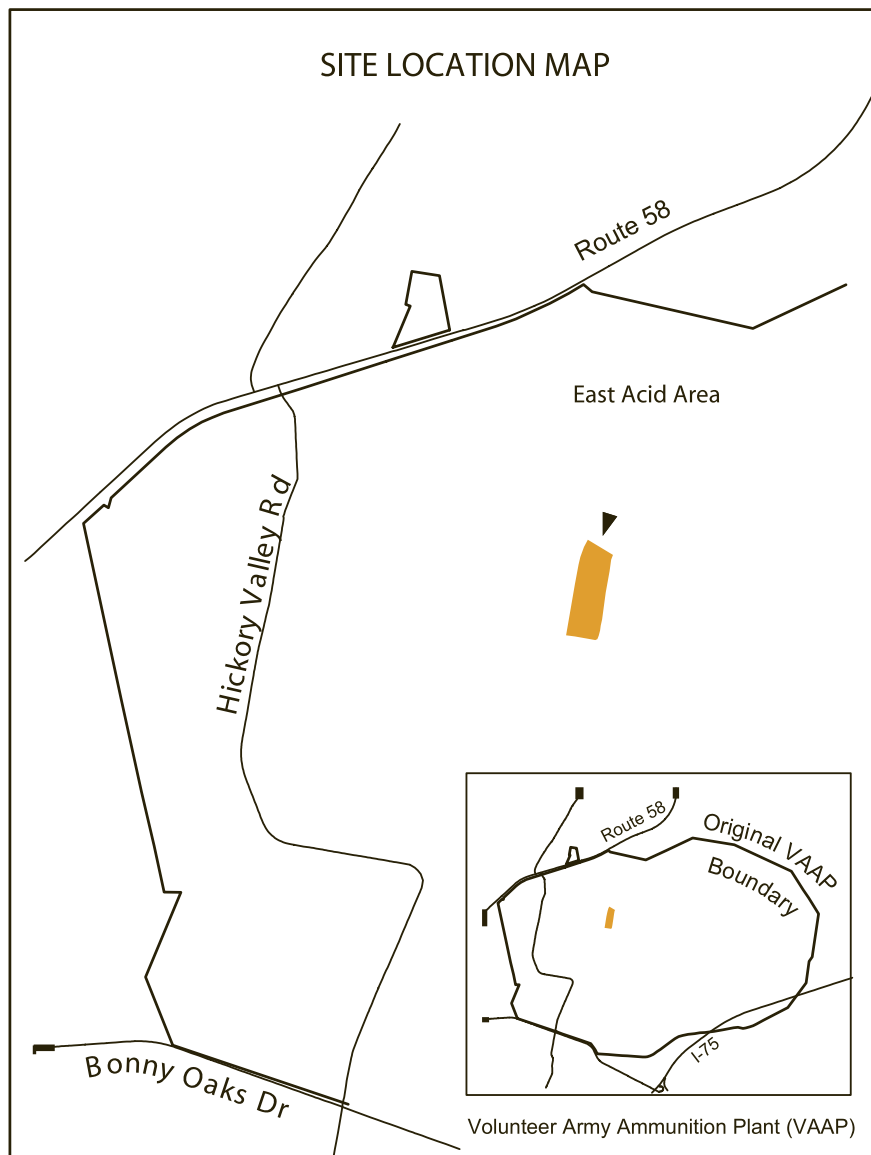
This document summarizes the Army's proposal for cleanup of soil and sediment at the East Acid Area. The Army requests public comment on the proposed alternative outlined in this fact sheet. In cooperation with the U.S. Environment Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), the Army developed this plan and will implement the remedy for the East Acid Area after considering and addressing comments from the public.

This environmental update highlights key information from the Statement of Basis, which is a brief document that summarizes all the previous investigations conducted at the site, and presents the various alternatives considered for cleanup. The Statement of Basis and other key studies that have been performed for the East Acid Area are maintained in the information repository at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library, located at 100 Broad Street in Chattanooga, Tenn.

The Statement of Basis and cleanup addresses soil and sediment. Groundwater at the site is being addressed through a site-wide groundwater corrective measures study. Since no permanent surface water bodies are present at the East Acid Area, no cleanup actions are proposed for surface water.

Facility and site description

Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant formerly occupied approximately 6,100 acres in Chattanooga, located in Hamilton County.



Volunteer was once used for the production and storage of 2, 4, 6-trinitrotoluene (TNT). The Army placed the facility on standby in 1977 and declared it excess in 1999.

The East Acid Area, approximately 19 acres in size, produced a variety of acids in support of the TNT-manufacturing process.

Why is cleanup needed?

The Army studied the East Acid Area and drew the following conclusions:

- Lead, polychlorinated biphenyls, explosives and arsenic are present at concentrations above the soil and sediment cleanup criteria established for the East Acid Area.



- Removal of affected soil and sediment will reduce risk of exposure to regulatory acceptable levels for future commercial or industrial tenants and any animals at the site.

East Acid Area cleanup alternatives evaluated

The Army considered the following alternatives for cleaning up impacted soil and sediment at the East Acid Area. Information on the alternatives and the Army's evaluation can be found in the RFI/CMS and the Statement of Basis.

- **Alternative 1:** No action
- **Alternative 2:** Excavation and offsite treatment and disposal in addition to land-use controls
- **Alternative 3:** Excavation, both onsite and ex-situ (not in place) treatment, offsite treatment and disposal and land-use controls

Preferred cleanup alternative

Alternative 3 is the Army's preferred cleanup option for the East Acid Area. The soil will be excavated and soil containing hazardous levels of lead, arsenic, and explosives is then stabilized on-site to make it nonhazardous, and then is disposed of off-site. This option complies with regulatory requirements and was approved by the EPA and TDEC. Formal approval will come from both agencies after the comment period ends on August 16, 2005.

What do you think?

The Army requests public comment on this proposed cleanup alternative between July 18 and August 16, 2005. The Army wants to consider your comments before implementing the cleanup plan.

Mail written comments or questions

postmarked no later than
August 16, 2005 or call:
Mr. Scott Bolton
Commander's Representative
Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant
P.O. Box 22607
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37422
Phone: (423) 893-9143

Next steps

The Army will consider and address all significant public comments received during the comment period. The responses to significant comments will be included in the Responsiveness Summary, which will become part of the Statement of Basis and also will be available at the information repository.